



CUHK JOCKEY CLUB INITIATIVE GAIA



Fact Sheet

Background

In 2012, The Chinese University of Hong Kong partnered The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust to launch a 5-year community engagement programme, the CUHK Jockey Club Initiative Gaia, to pave a sustainable future for Hong Kong. With the generous donation of HK\$54 million by the Club's Charities Trust, the programme is aimed at promoting environmental conservation and sustainability in local communities, through knowledge transfer, public education and a carbon reduction partnership with schools and non-governmental organizations.

Naming of Gaia

The name of the programme is taken from 'Gaia', the name of the Greek goddess symbolizing Mother Earth.

*We are all one planet, all one people of Earth.
All one planet, sharing our living, our dying, our birth.
And we won't stand by watching her die.
Hearing her cry and deny we live as she lives, we die as she dies...*

Molly Scott's song sees Mother Earth and those who live there in a web of life; the healing of Mother Earth is a joint responsibility for all of us.

The Gaia Theory proposed by Professor James Lovelock suggests that the biotic and abiotic environment is made up of complex interrelationships, which are delicate and may be altered by human interference to a breaking point. Therefore, we must learn to respect Gaia and pay attention to our acts, minimizing the impacts to nature.

In Italian, Gaia means 'joy'. The programme also aims to inspire a joyful, sustainable, compassionate way of living.

Components of CUHK Jockey Club Initiative Gaia

CUHK Jockey Club Initiative Gaia consists of three components:

The Jockey Club Museum of Climate Change

The Museum presents Dr Rebecca Lee's valuable "Three Poles" (the North Pole, the South Pole and Mt Everest) collection, The Chinese University of Hong Kong's innovative research in environment, energy and sustainability, and The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust's endeavours contributing to the improvement of the environment.

Go Green Community – Jockey Club Carbon Reduction Partnership Scheme

The Scheme aims to build a strategic partnership with local schools and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to reduce carbon emissions. Professional consultancy in carbon audit and carbon reduction recommendations are offered to schools and NGOs by experts from CUHK.

Conferences, Forums and Fairs

A series of environmental conferences, public forums and educational fairs are held regularly to foster public understanding of climate change. Activities are held in different districts so as to reach out to as many communities as possible.

Upcoming Events

CUHK Jockey Club Initiative Gaia Launch Ceremony

Date: 3 January 2013 (Thursday)
Time: 9:00 am – 10:15 am
Venue: Lecture Theatre 1, Cheng Yu Tung Building, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Conference on the Forty Years of Environmental Protection in China

Date: 3–5 January 2013 (Thursday – Saturday)
Time: Starts at 9:00 am
Venue: Cheng Yu Tung Building and Esther Lee Building, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Public Form: Environment and Climate Change Forum Series

Date: 25 January 2013 (Friday)
Time: 3:00 pm – 5:15 pm
Venue: Room 101, The Boys' & Girls Clubs Association of Hong Kong, Wanchai

Environment Fair 2013

Date: 2 March 2013 (Saturday)
Time: 1:30 pm – 5:00 pm
Venue: Cityplaza, Tai Koo Shing

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